

**CASE STUDY #8: JOHNSON CREEK WHMA**  
**Plateau® Application Post-Wildfire**

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August 2001



# JOHNSON CREEK WILDLIFE HABITAT MGMT AREA



**IT IS THE SPORTSMAN'S RESPONSIBILITY  
TO DETERMINE LAND BOUNDARIES  
ACCESS AREA BOUNDARY WILL BE  
MARKED WITH SIGNS**

**LITTERING IS PROHIBITED, PACK OUT  
YOUR TRASH AND RESPECT PRIVATE  
PROPERTY**

**OVERNIGHT CAMPING IN DESIGNATED  
CAMPING AREA ONLY, 5 DAY LIMIT**

**NO OPEN FIRES**



**Refused Aid Project**  
funded by your purchase of  
Sutcliffe equipment

**WYOMING'S WILDLIFE**  
*Worth the Waiting*















Early Fall 2001



Early Fall 2001









November 2001





**Plateau® Trial Site Along Hwy 34**

**2 oz. / acre, 4 oz. / acre, 6 oz. / acre**

**\*applied 11 / 19 / 01**

**\*photo taken 06 / 05 / 02**

**2 oz. / acre**

**4 oz. / acre**

**6 oz. / acre**





A photograph of a grassy field. The foreground is dominated by tall, green, blade-like grasses, likely cheatgrass, growing in clumps. The ground between the clumps is brown and appears to be bare or covered in dry, dead vegetation. In the background, there is a dense layer of lower, greener vegetation, possibly shrubs or smaller grasses. The overall scene is a natural, uncultivated landscape.

**Cheatgrass dominated.....valuable wildlife habitat?**

**Untreated burned site adjacent to Plateau® trial location**





**Western Wheatgrass response to Plateau® application (6 oz. / acre)  
1<sup>st</sup> Spring post-application (06/05/02)**





Plateau® trial site (front to back) untreated, 2 oz., 4 oz., 6 oz. / acre





July 19, 2002







East-Facing Slope Post-Burn  
Spring 2002





# True Mountain Mahogany Re-Sprouting

June 2002

30%-50% re-sprouting on east & north-facing slopes







**Serviceberry Re-Sprout  
June 2002**



# PROJECT GOALS

- ELIMINATE OR REDUCE PRESENCE OF CHEATGRASS
- PROMOTE GROWTH OF NATIVE, PERENNIAL VEGETATION (HERBACEOUS / WOODY)
- RETURN 448 ACRES OF THE JOHNSON CREEK WHMA TO PRODUCTIVE, YEAR-ROUND HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE
- BE PROACTIVE IN MANAGEMENT OF COMMISSION-OWNED LANDS



How does the



get the job done?

- UTILIZE BEST AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY
- PARTNER WITH GROUPS / ORGANIZATIONS WITH HIGH INTEREST IN WYOMING'S WILDLIFE



# WORK PLAN

- ESTABLISH VEGETATIVE TRANSECTS ON AREAS “PRE-TREATMENT”, TO MONITOR RESPONSE
- APPLY PLATEAU® HERBICIDE TO BURNED ACRES ON NON-BLM LANDS
- MONITOR VEGETATIVE RESPONSE BY FOLLOW-UP VISITS TO TRANSECT SITES IN YEARS 1 – 5, 10, .....





Establishment of permanent transects on south-facing slopes along Hwy 34  
Assistance provided by Heather Burdick and Kate Crossthwaite (BLM – Rawlins)

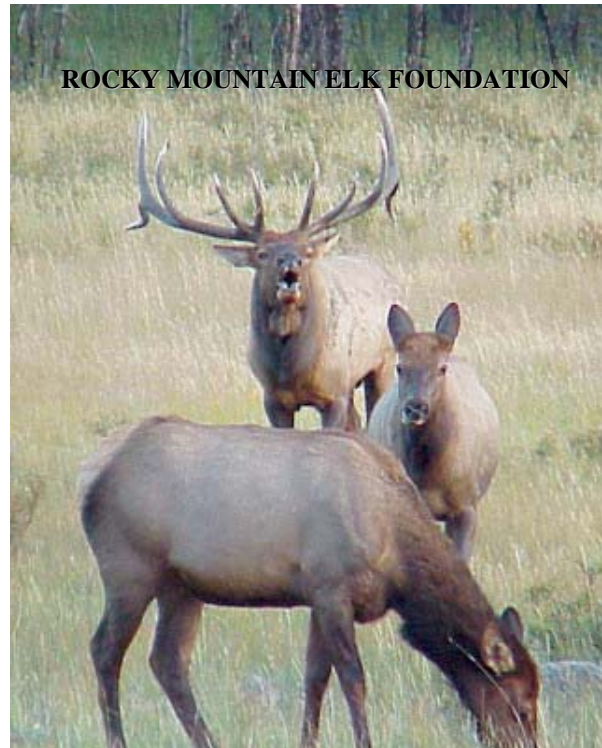


# FNAWS



## Funding:

WGFD	\$10,167
RMEF	\$ 2,783
FNAWS	\$ 4,000





# THE “RECIPE”

- Plateau®: 8 oz. / acre
- Surfactant: Methylated Vegetable-Based Seed Oil, Soy-Stik®: 1 qt. / acre
- Water: 5 gallons / acre







**Aerial application by Bighorn Airways of Sheridan, WY**  
**Bell Jet Ranger Helicopter @ \$580 / hour**  
**450 acres treated in 5 hours flight time**

**8. 28. 2002**









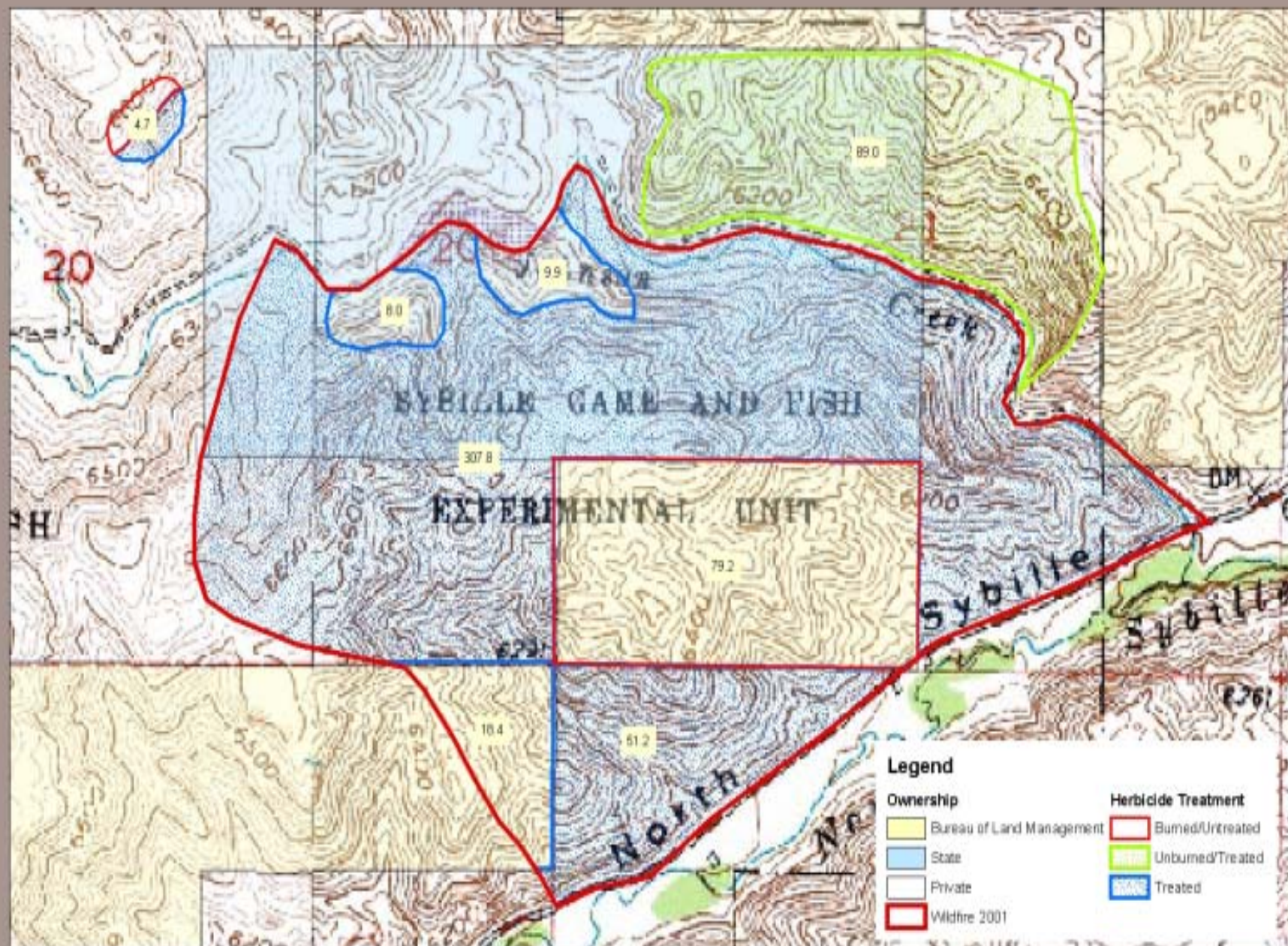
Helicopter application chosen due to steep terrain (30% slopes) and time efficiency













# COSTS

- HERBICIDE: \$7,496.10
- SURFACTANT: \$1,190.80
- AERIAL APPLICATION: \$8,264.00

\*includes transport, mixing truck, crew, per diem

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TOTAL	\$16,950.90
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COST PER ACRE TREATED:	\$ 37.44
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# THE FUTURE OF THE JOHNSON CREEK WHMA

- MONITOR VEGETATIVE RESPONSE OF TREATED AND UNTREATED ACREAGE ON THE JOHNSON CREEK WHMA
- WITH SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT, CONTINUE TO PROVIDE YEAR-ROUND HABITAT FOR BIG GAME AND OTHER WILDLIFE
- POTENTIAL TO UTILIZE THE UNIT AS A “GRASS BANK”, IMPROVING THE WGFD’S AND OTHER LAND MANAGER’S ABILITIES TO PROVIDE PROPER REST, PRE- AND POST-TREATMENT TO OTHER PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LANDS IN SE WYOMING



# SPECIAL THANKS



BASF – Joe Vollmer, Scott Votaw  
BLM – Rawlins Field Office  
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Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
Wyoming Game and Fish Department – Laramie Region, HQ and Commission, Sybille  
Research Center Personnel